

Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) An apparatus including:

a cassette,

wherein the cassette is adapted for use in an automated banking machine,

wherein the cassette is operative to hold media therein,

wherein the cassette includes a biasing mechanism that is operative to move media in the cassette in a first direction,

wherein the cassette includes at least one indicator member,

wherein the at least one indicator member includes indicator data therewith regarding the cassette,

wherein the at least one indicator member comprises at least one radio frequency identification (RFID) tag,

wherein the at least one RFID tag includes identification data representative of a cassette identification number,

wherein the identification data is ~~operative~~ adapted to be remotely read by a RFID tag reader of an automated banking machine;

wherein the data is operative to be read without requiring physical contact between the indicator member and a component of the machine.

2-44. (canceled)

45. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 66 ~~+~~ wherein the ~~data is representative of cassette identifying information~~ includes a biasing mechanism that is operative to move the currency in a first direction.

46. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 ~~45~~ wherein the cassette identification number identifying information pertains to a unique cassette identification number ~~associated with the cassette.~~

47. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the indicator data includes data is representative of cassette content information.

48. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 47 wherein the cassette content information pertains to at least one media characteristic.

49. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 48 wherein the media comprises currency, and wherein the cassette content information pertains to at least one currency characteristic.

50. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 49 wherein the at least one currency characteristic relates to currency nationality, currency denomination, currency length, currency height, currency thickness, currency code, amount of currency loaded in the cassette, time the cassette was loaded with currency, date the cassette was loaded with currency, identifying information pertaining to the currency loading entity, or any combination thereof.

51. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the indicator member at least one RFID tag comprises a non-contact transponder ~~operative to communicate with an automated banking machine.~~

52. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 80 † wherein the ~~indicator member~~ comprises a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag cassette includes a biasing mechanism that is operative to move media in the cassette in a first direction.

53. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 ~~52~~ wherein ~~the~~ a RFID tag is embedded in the cassette.

54. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 ~~52~~ wherein ~~the~~ a RFID tag is removably attached to the cassette.

55. (currently amended) The method apparatus according to claim 77 ~~52~~ wherein ~~the tag carries data representative of a cassette identification number~~ (a) includes providing a media cassette that includes both media and a biasing mechanism that is operative to move the media in a first direction.

56. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 ~~55~~ wherein the cassette identification number has a length of at least 32 bits.

57. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 ~~52~~ wherein ~~the~~ a RFID tag includes a programmable memory.

58. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 ~~52~~ wherein the apparatus further includes an automated banking machine.

59. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 58 wherein the automated banking machine comprises an ATM.

60. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 59 wherein the ATM includes the cassette therein.

61. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 60 wherein the ATM includes a RFID tag reader with circuitry operative to interrogate ~~the~~ a RFID tag to receive information about the cassette from the RFID tag.

62. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 61 wherein the RFID tag reader circuitry comprise a circuit card assembly.

63. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 61 wherein the RFID tag lacks a power source, and wherein the RFID tag reader is operative to receive information about the cassette via RF energy provided by the RFID tag reader.

64. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 61 wherein the RFID tag reader is operative to receive encrypted information about the cassette.

65. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 64 wherein the RFID tag reader comprises a decoder in decoding circuitry.

66. (previously presented) An apparatus including:

a cassette,

wherein the cassette includes currency,

wherein the cassette includes at least one radio frequency identification (RFID) tag,

wherein the at least one tag includes data representative of a characteristic of the currency,

an automated banking machine,

wherein the automated banking machine comprises a dispenser feed channel,

wherein the dispenser feed channel includes a cassette reader,

wherein the reader is operative to remotely read the tag data.

67. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 66 wherein the reader is operative to read the tag data while the tag is in physically contactless relationship with the machine.

68. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 67 wherein the reader is spaced from the tag.

69. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 68 wherein the reader is operative to read the tag data via RF energy provided by the reader.

70. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 66 wherein the tag includes a programmable memory.

71. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 66 wherein the reader comprise a circuit card assembly.

72. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 66 wherein the apparatus further includes an automated banking machine network, wherein the network includes a plurality of automated banking machines, wherein each automated banking machine includes a plurality of currency cassettes.

73. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 72 wherein the network can track the amount of currency in an automated banking machine.

74. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 73 wherein the network can track the amount of currency in each automated banking machine in the network.

75. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 74 wherein the network can determine the amount of currency in the network.

76. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 75 wherein the network is operative to provide currency information in real time.

77. (currently amended) A method including:

- (a) providing a media cassette in an automated banking machine, wherein the cassette includes at least one ~~data~~ radio frequency identification (RFID) tag, wherein the at least one RFID tag contains information representative of a characteristic of the cassette, wherein the information includes data representative of a cassette identification number,
- (b) reading the at least one RFID tag with a at least one RFID tag reader to obtain the ~~cassette information~~ data, wherein the machine includes the at least one RFID tag reader, and wherein the at least one RFID tag reader is ~~operative to~~ remotely read the tag without the tag contacting the machine.

78. (currently amended) The method according to claim 77 ~~wherein the tag comprises a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag, and~~ wherein (b) includes reading ~~the~~ at least one RFID tag using radio frequency (RF).

79. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~77~~ 78 wherein ~~the~~ a RFID tag contains ~~the information representative of a cassette identification number, and~~ wherein (b) includes reading the cassette identification number from the RFID tag.

80. (currently amended) An apparatus including:

an automated banking machine cassette,

wherein the cassette is operative to hold media therein,

wherein the cassette includes at least one cassette target indicator member,

~~wherein the at least one indicator member is operative to provide information representative of a characteristic of the cassette;~~

~~wherein the information is operative to be remotely accessed by a disposed component of an automated banking machine~~

an automated banking machine,

wherein the automated banking machine comprises a distance determining device,

wherein the distance determining device is operative to determine a distance between a cassette target and a component of the automated banking machine without the cassette target contacting the machine.

81. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 80 wherein the cassette includes at least one indicator member, wherein the at least one indicator member is operative to provide information representative of cassette content.

82. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 81 wherein the cassette contains media therein, wherein the at least one indicator member is operative to provide information representative of a characteristic of the cassette media.

83. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 82 wherein ~~the~~ an indicator member comprises a cassette target.

84. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 83 wherein the target is operative to provide information representative of a cassette position in a machine.

85. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 80 ~~84~~ wherein the apparatus further ~~includes an automated banking machine,~~ wherein the machine has the cassette therein.

86. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 80 ~~85~~ wherein the automated banking machine ~~comprises a distance determining device, wherein the determining device is operative to determine the distance between the target and a component of the automated banking machine a~~ position of the cassette relative to the machine based on the determined distance.

87. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 80 ~~86~~ wherein the determining device comprises a sensor, wherein the sensor is operative to measure the distance between the target and the sensor.

88. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 87~~ Apparatus including:

an automated banking machine,

wherein the automated banking machine includes a cassette,

wherein the cassette contains media therein,

wherein the cassette includes at least one indicator member,

wherein the at least one indicator member is operative to provide
information representative of a characteristic of the media,

wherein the information is operative to be remotely
accessed by a disposed component of an automated banking
machine,

wherein the at least one indicator member includes a target,

wherein the target is operative to provide information
representative of a cassette position in a machine,

wherein the automated banking machine includes a distance determining device,

wherein the distance determining device includes a sensor,

wherein the sensor is operative to measure a distance between the
target and the sensor,

wherein the sensor comprises an Eddy current ~~type~~ distance sensor.

89. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 87 wherein the automated banking machine comprises a dispenser feed channel, wherein the sensor is part of a sensor circuit associated with the dispenser feed channel.

90. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 83 wherein the target comprises a metal, and wherein the metal is attached to or embedded into the cassette.

91. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 90~~ Apparatus including:

an automated banking machine cassette,

wherein the cassette contains media therein,

wherein the cassette includes at least one indicator member,

wherein the at least one indicator member is operative to provide
information representative of a characteristic of the media,

wherein the information is operative to be remotely
accessed by a component of an automated banking
machine,

wherein the at least one indicator member includes a target,

wherein the target includes a metal,

wherein the metal is attached to or embedded into
the cassette,

wherein the target comprises Ferrite.

92. (currently amended) A method including:

- (a) providing a media cassette in an automated banking machine, wherein the cassette includes at least one cassette target;
- (b) ~~remotely sensing~~ measuring a distance between a cassette target ~~with a sensor,~~
~~wherein and a component of~~ the machine ~~includes the sensor,~~ wherein the sensor
is operative to sense the cassette target without the cassette target contacting the
machine.

93. (currently amended) The method according to claim 92 wherein the machine includes a sensor, and further including wherein (b) includes remotely measuring the distance with the sensor

~~(c) — measuring a distance to the cassette target.~~

94. (currently amended) The method according to claim 92 ~~93~~ and further including

(c) ~~(d)~~ determining the position of the cassette relative to the machine based on the distance measured in (b) ~~(c)~~.